

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing plant yield or biomass~~Method to improve plant growth characteristics relative to corresponding wild-type plants,~~ comprising introduction into a plant of a nucleic acid encoding a CCS52 protein under the control of a medium-strength constitutive promoter to produce a plant having increased yield or biomass as compared to a control plant.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim ~~[[2]]~~1, wherein said increased yield or biomass~~yield/biomass~~ comprises increased plant size, increased organ size or increased number of organs.

4. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 3, wherein said increased organ size is selected from increased leaf size, increased seed size or increased stem diameter.

5. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 3, wherein said increased number of organs is selected from increased number of leaves, increased number of branches, increased number of flowers or increased number of seeds.

6. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein said CCS52 protein is a CCS52A protein.

7. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid encoding a CCS52 protein is ~~as represented by~~ SEQ ID NOs: 1, 3 or 5, or a variant of [[any of]] SEQ ID NOs: 1, 3 or 5, or said nucleic acid encoding a CCS52

~~protein is a nucleic acid encoding a protein of –and/or wherein said CCS52 protein is a protein as represented by SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4 or 6, or a variant of [[any of]] SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4 or 6.~~

Claim 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The method Method~~ according to claim 8, wherein said promoter is a ubiquitin promoter or a promoter with a similar expression pattern.

10. (Currently Amended) Genetic construct comprising:

(a) a CCS52 nucleic acid or a variant thereof, encoding a CCS52 protein or a variant thereof; operably linked to

(b) a medium-strength constitutive promoter; and optionally

(c) a transcription termination sequence.

Claim 11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) Genetic construct according to claim 10, wherein said promoter is a ubiquitin promoter or a promoter with a similar expression pattern.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Method for the production of a transgenic plant having increased yield or biomass improved growth characteristics relative to corresponding wild-type plants, comprising:~~

a) introducing into a plant cell a genetic construct according claim 10;

b) cultivating said plant cell under conditions promoting plant growth.

14. (Previously Presented) Host cell containing a genetic construct as defined in claim 10.

15. (Currently Amended) Plant obtainable by a method according to claim 1, which plant has increased yield or biomass ~~improved growth~~ characteristics relative to corresponding wild-type plants.

16. (Currently Amended) Transgenic plant containing a genetic construct as defined in claim 10, which plant has increased yield or biomass ~~improved growth~~ characteristics relative to corresponding wild-type plants.

17. (Currently Amended) Transgenic plant according to claim 16, wherein said plant is a monocotyledonous plant, ~~preferably a cereal such as rice or maize.~~

18. (Currently Amended) Transgenic plant according to claim 16, wherein said plant is a dicotyledoneous plant, ~~preferably a dicotyledoneous crop plant or ornamental, such as azalea.~~

19. (Currently Amended) Plant part, ~~preferably a harvestable part, such as a seed, or a propagule~~ of a plant as defined in claim 15.

20. (Previously Presented) Progeny of a plant as defined in claim 15.

Claim 21. (Canceled)